Schemes to assist tribals to lift water from rivers

1968. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) since the rivers in tribal areas originate from the hills and they have water throughout the year, whether his Ministry has any scheme to assist the tribals to lift this water to enable them to have second crops and meet the shortage of the grain in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHU RI A): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Water Resources is implementing an "Accelerated Irrigaiton Benefits Programme" (AIBP) since 1999-2000 for motivating farmers for utilizing water resources through minor irrigation schemes including lift irrigaiton from river/nala for special category States of North-Eastern regions, other hilly States namely Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand and KBK districts of Orissa which are predominantly inhabited by tribals. This scheme was extended from December, 2005 to non-special category States to include Minor irrigaiton scheme which serve tribal and drought prone areas. This scheme helps to grow the second crops through creating irrigaiton facilities in these areas to enhance the production of different crops.

Surface minor irrigaiton (MI) schemes of States of North-East, Hilly States (Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttaranchal) and drought prone KBK districts of Orissa, which are approved by State Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)/State Planning Department, are eligible for assistance under the programme provided that (i) individual schemes are benefiting irrigation potential of at least 20 hectare and group of schemes (within a radius of 5 km) benefiting total ultimate irrigaiton potential of at least 50 hectare (ii) the Minor irrigation schemes have benefit-cost ratio of more than 1.0 and (iii) the development cost of these schemes per hectare is less than Rs. 1.00 lakh.

For Non-special category States, only those minor irrigation schemes with potential of more than 50 hectare, which serve tribal areas and drough prone areas, are to be included under AIBP.

Productivity and wages of agricultural labourer

1969. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per worker productivity of agricultural labourer; and

(b) how does Government calculate per worker earnings in agriculture, when there is no fixed wage in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Collection, compilation and dissemination of statistical information on various aspects of labour is in the domain of Labour Bureau. Per worker productivity of agricultural labourer, as such, is not compiled and hence not available. Daily wage rates in respect of specified agricultural and non agricultural occupations from a fixed set of six hundred sample villages in twenty States are collected/compiled by National Sample Survey Organisation/Labour Bureau. The average wage rates at all-India level are derived by